



2014 GOLD AWARD



AWARDED TO

UPTON IN BLOOM

FOR AN ENTRY IN THE

LARGE VILLAGE CATEGORY

.....
PRESIDENT HEART OF ENGLAND IN BLOOM

S. J. R. C. A.

.....
HEART OF ENGLAND IN BLOOM JUDGES



HEART OF ENGLAND IN BLOOM CELEBRATES
50 YEARS
RHS BRITAIN IN BLOOM



Sharing the best in Gardening

Upton in Bloom – Large Village Gold Award

Judges: Robin Russell & Jennifer Wharton

It was a lovely sunny day when we met at the Anchor Inn to be greeted by Jackie Surtees Chairman of Upton in Bloom, Simon Wilkinson, the Treasurer and Brian Williams Horticulture adviser to be shown a well presented review of the year. There was a whistle stop tour of the delights of the village as we visited the local school and children's centre, the allotments and passing very well maintained residential gardens. At a local sheltered housing complex the residents have got together to improve their outlook and in the process their well being. The SSSI wild life area, known as the Ham, where the grassland is not all cut at once which allows the wildlife prosper. Dave Throup met us at the riverbank and explained the background to the flood defences. Tudor House Museum is now run by volunteers after the death of Violets Lavender; they have great plans for the garden. At the old Churchyard we were greeted by the children from the local school all dressed in 1914 costumes which was a great way to finish our tour.

Areas of Achievement:

The very colourful baskets along the river front with runner beans growing out of them - a novel idea

The well maintained beds opposite Church Cottages looked after by Annabel Apps

The new flower bed by the steps up to the old church yard with a gold planting scheme

The addition of the hanging baskets along the High Street

The new Sedum roof on top of the Heritage Centre

All compost is obtained from Severn Waste and composted at Lower moor and comes from the green waste collected in the area

The use of the Mosquito weed ripper that not only removes weeds but sweeps as it goes keeping the edges of the streets weed free without using harmful chemicals

The newly painted mural on the East side of the bridge by the Children of Hanley Castle High School - this now compliments the one on the Westside

The all year round fund raising including the Easter Egg Draw.

Areas for Improvement:

Some of the pathways and alleys need more care taken of them

Heart of England in Bloom 2014 Judges Comments

As the local gardening competition hadn't many entries this year perhaps the Committee could consider selecting some of the best ones themselves for an independent judge to award a prize.